Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A method of associating an electronic signature with an electronic record in a computer system, the method comprising:

receiving first ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining an event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic signature from data intercepted from a database transaction;

receiving second ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining one or more fields stored in the electronic record;

receiving third ~~user input to generate a map that~~ information from a user interface that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields defined for the electronic record;

receiving fourth ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining a layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when an electronic signature for the electronic record is collected;

receiving fifth ~~user input to identify~~ information from a user interface identifying a signatory approver for the electronic record;

in response to the occurrence of the event, generating the electronic record from data intercepted from the database transaction and displaying the electronic record to the signatory approver according to the defined layout;

receiving an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and

generating sixth information associating the electronic signature with the electronic record prior to committing the database transaction to a database.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising verifying the electronic signature prior to associating the electronic signature with the electronic record.

3. (Previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein associating the electronic signature with the electronic record comprise associating the electronic signature with the electronic record in response to a positive verification of the electronic signature.

4. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic signature comprises a user id and a password.

5. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising verifying the electronic signature and storing the electronic record in a common repository of electronic records that are generated from multiple data sources.

6. (Original): The method of claim 5 wherein the electronic record comprises unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

7. (Original): The method of claim 6 wherein the common repository is a database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML document stored within a column of a table stored in the database.

8. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

when execution of a rule results in a determination that an electronic signature is required, displaying data from the electronic record on a computer display.

9. (Currently amended): A computer system that manages electronic records stored in a database, the computer system comprising:

a processor;

a database; and

a computer-readable memory coupled to the processor, the computer-readable memory configured to store a computer program;

wherein the processor is operative with the computer program to:

(i) receive first ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining an event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic signature from data intercepted from a database transaction;

(ii) receive second ~~user input to define the~~ information from a user interface defining one or more fields stored in the electronic record;

(iii) receive third ~~user input to generate a map~~ information from a user interface that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields defined for the electronic record;

(iv) receive fourth ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining a layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when an electronic signature for the electronic record is collected;

(v) receive fifth ~~user input to identify~~ information from a user interface identifying a signatory approver for the electronic record;

(vi) generate the electronic record from data intercepted from the database transaction and display the electronic record to the signatory approver according to the defined layout in response to the occurrence of the event;

(vii) receive an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and

(viii) generate sixth information that associates the electronic signature with the electronic record prior to committing the database transaction to the database.

10. (Original): The computer system of claim 9 wherein processor is further operative to verify the electronic signature.

11. (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 10 wherein processor is operative to associate the electronic signature with the electronic record in response to a positive verification of the electronic signature.

12. (Original): The computer system of claim 9 wherein the electronic signature comprises a user id and a password.

13. (Original): The computer system of claim 12 wherein the processor is further operative to verify the electronic signature and store the electronic record in a common repository of electronic records that are generated from multiple data sources.

14. (Original): The computer system of claim 13 wherein the electronic record comprises unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

15. (Original): The computer system of claim 14 wherein the common repository is a database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML document stored within a column of a table stored in the database.

16. (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 9 wherein the processor is further operative to display data from the electronic record on a computer display when execution of a rule results in a determination that an electronic signature is required.

17. (Currently amended): A computer program product having a computer-readable storage medium storing a set of code modules which when executed by a processor of a computer system cause the processor to manage electronic records stored in a database, the computer program product comprising:

code for receiving first ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining an event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic signature from data intercepted from a database transaction;

code for receiving second ~~user input to define the~~ information from a user interface defining one or more fields stored in the electronic record;

code for receiving third ~~user input to generate a map~~ information from a user interface that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields defined for the electronic record;

code for receiving fourth ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining a layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when an electronic signature for the electronic record is collected;

code for receiving fifth ~~user input to identify~~ information from a user interface identifying a signatory approver for the electronic record;

code for, in response to the occurrence of the event, generating the electronic record from data intercepted from the database transaction and displaying the electronic record to the signatory approver according to the defined layout;

code for receiving an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and

code for generating sixth information associating the electronic signature with the electronic record prior to committing the database transaction to a database.

18. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 17 further comprising code for verifying the electronic signature.

19. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the electronic signature comprises a user id and a password.

20. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising code for storing the electronic record in a common repository of electronic records that are generated from multiple data sources.

21. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 20 wherein the electronic record comprises unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

22. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the common repository is a database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML document stored within a column of a table stored in the database.